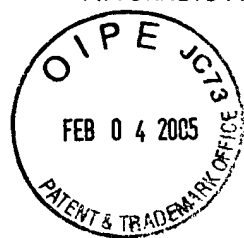


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*Admitted only in Maryland
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*Practice limited to
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February 4, 2005

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Commissioner for Patents
PO Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Mail Stop: AF

Re: U.S. Utility Patent Application
Application No. 09/903,864; Filed: July 13, 2001
For: **Methods and Compositions for Rapid Protein and Peptide Extraction
and Isolation Using a Lysis Matrix**
Inventors: Blakesley *et al.*
Our Ref: 0942.5050002/RWE/ALS

Sir:

Transmitted herewith for appropriate action are the following documents:

1. Credit Card Payment Form PTO-2038;
2. Petition for Extension of Time Under 37 C.F.R. 1.136(a) Form PTO/SB/22;
3. Notice of Appeal From the Examiner to the Board of Patent Appeals and Interferences – Large Entity;
4. Amendment and Reply Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.116; and
5. One (1) return postcard.

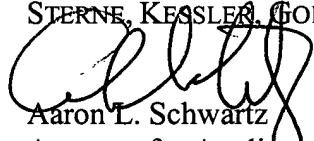
It is respectfully requested that the attached postcard be stamped with the date of filing of these documents, and that it be returned to our courier. In the event that extensions of time are necessary to prevent abandonment of this patent application, then such extensions of time are hereby petitioned.

Commissioner for Patents
February 4, 2005
Page 2

The U.S. Patent and Trademark Office is hereby authorized to charge any fee deficiency, or credit any overpayment, to our Deposit Account No. 19-0036.

Respectfully submitted,

STERNE, KESSLER, GOLDSTEIN & FOX P.L.L.C.



Aaron L. Schwartz
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ALS/law
Enclosures
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